

black, except near the head, where the margin is white when viewed under a lens. Length about 2 lines. Motion active.

From the bodies of some individuals I have pressed about twenty round, reddish-brown, capsulated ova. It will be seen, by a reference to Dr. Johnston's 'Catalogue' (p. 16), that this species bears a great resemblance to the *T. (Planaria) prasina* of Sir John Dalyell, and differs almost solely in colour. I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. HOUGHTON.

*Megaceros hibernicus in the Cambridgeshire Fens.*

*To the Editors of the Annals and Magazine of Natural History.*

GENTLEMEN,—In reply to Mr. H. G. Seeley's letter in the 'Annals' for August 1867, on the Irish Elk, I beg to remark that I was acquainted with the passage in Prof. Owen's 'British Fossil Mammals' to which Mr. Seeley alludes; but, as the bone to which my note referred was found in *Cambridgeshire*, and as *Megaceros hibernicus* is not common in the Fens, I supposed that its occurrence was worth recording. I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Dublin, Aug. 26, 1867.

NORMAN MOORE.

*Note on Ursus lasiotus, a hairy-eared Bear from North China.*

By Dr. J. E. GRAY, F.R.S. &c.

The Zoological Society has recently received a bear from North China. It belongs to the same group as the European bear (*Ursus arctos*), the Grisly Bear (*U. ferox*), and the Japanese bear, having a broad head rounded above behind, a moderate broad nose, and prominent ears.

It differs from these species in having the ears covered externally and, especially, internally with long soft hairs, those on the inside forming a tuft that nearly fills up and projects beyond the cavity of the ear. The fur is longer than in the European and Japanese bear at the same seasons; and there is a large tuft of longer hair on the back part of the throat, which is bent forwards at the tips. It is nearly as black as the Japanese bear; but it has a brownish nose and no indications of the angular mark on the chest usually found in that species, and it is of a larger size.

These peculiarities induce me to believe that the Chinese hairy-eared bear is a distinct species, for which I propose the name of *Ursus lasiotus*. When we have an opportunity of examining the skin and bones more particularly, I expect that more important specific characters will be observed. It is very distinct from the Syrian or Isabella bear of the mountains of Asia, which has a long narrow head.

Mr. Bartlett believed that it was a distinct species as soon as he saw it on board the ship. It is probably the bear that the Chinese lead about and teach to tumble, as shown in Chinese pictures, and as the "bear-leaders" in my childhood's days used to exhibit in London the European brown bear.